

Sticker & Poster inside • Saving the Oil Wells • Mobilization Masters

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

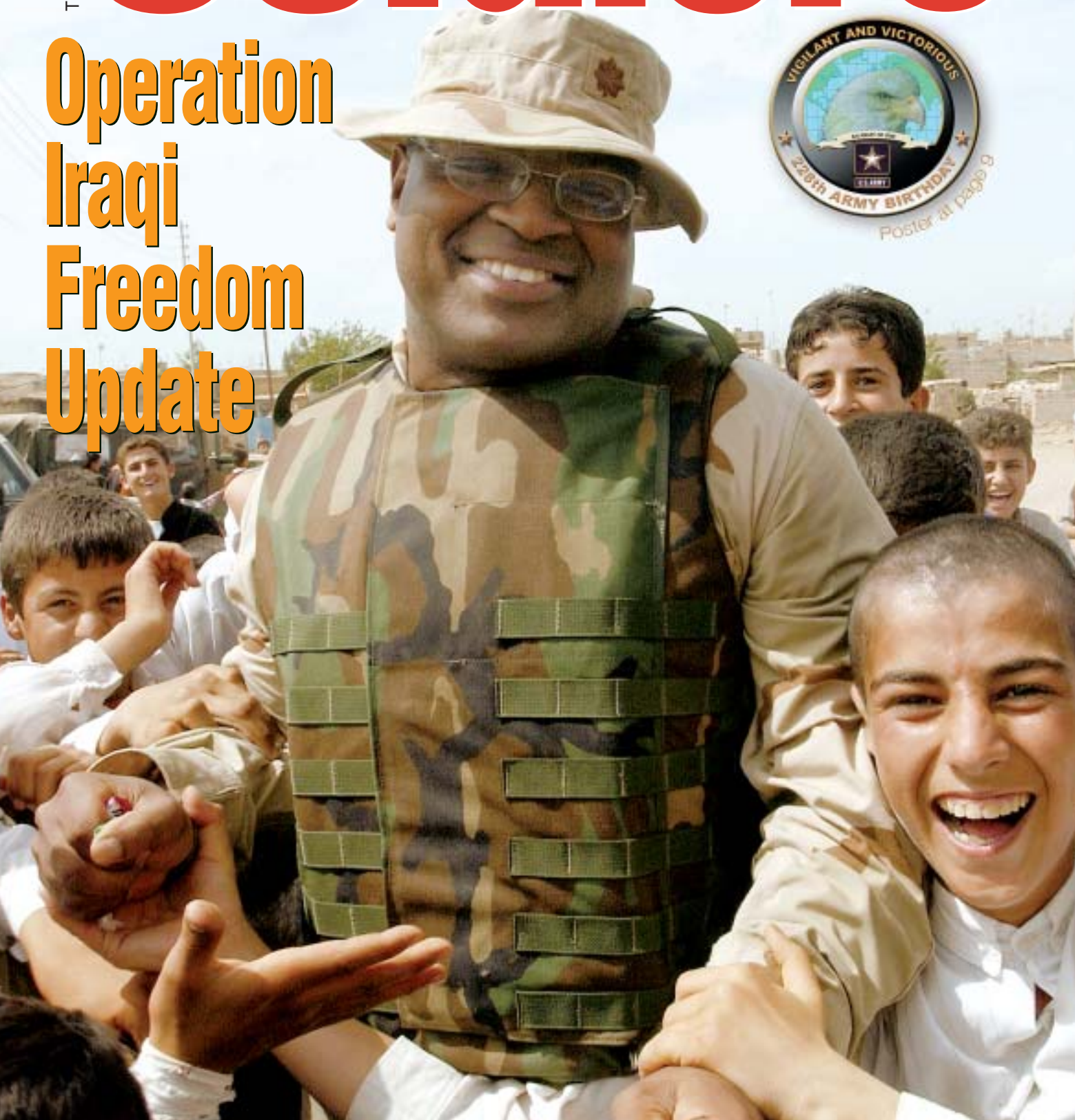
June 2003
www.soldiersmagazine.com

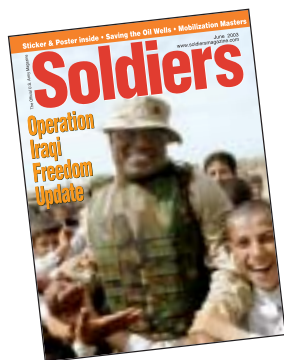
Soldiers

Operation
Iraqi
Freedom
Update



Poster at page 9





Cover Story — Page 4

MAJ Derryl Pooler of the 404th Civil Affairs Battalion is mobbed by happy students as he passes out candy at a school in Irbil, Iraq. — Staff Sgt. Jerry Morrison, USAF

CONTE

Soldiers | June 2003 | Vol



NTS

u m e 5 8 , N o . 6



Page 18



Page 12



Page 34



Page 42

Features

Operation Iraqi Freedom Update 4

With coalition forces firmly in control, Iraq looks forward to a future without Saddam Hussein.

Saving the Oil Wells 12

Even as the war unfolded, experts were moving in to extinguish well fires in Iraq's oil fields.

After the Medevac 14

In Germany, the Deployed Warrior Medical Management Center tends to soldiers injured and wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Training a Force for Freedom 18

At U.S.-run camps in Hungary, Iraqi exiles learned how to assist the coalition effort in their homeland.

The Ammo Specialists 20

Civilian experts ensured the availability and safety of ammunition used in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Weddings Before War 34

Marriage was a popular predeployment activity for Iraq-bound Maine National Guard soldiers.

Mobilization Masters 38

Garrison support units help transition reserve-component soldiers to active duty.

Through "Murphy's" Eyes 40

SFC Mark Baker calls on his own experiences to create his popular "PVT Murphy" cartoons.

The Gift of Groceries 42

An innovative gift program helps military families purchase needed commissary items.

Europe's Reserve Training Brigade 44

The 3747th Multi-Functional Training Bde. offers a range of educational opportunities.

Departments

- 2 Mail Call
- 24 On Point
- 28 Tech Notes
- 30 Postmarks
- 32 Lifestyles
- 36 Sharp Shooters
- 47 Around the Services
- 48 Focus on People



• soldiersmagazine.com



LAST year we enlisted the aid of the Army Research Institute to ask you, our readers, what you would like to see in *Soldiers*. We listened, and this month *Soldiers* launches three new departments — Lifestyles, Tech Notes and On Point.

Lifestyles covers a wide range of soldier concerns, such as fitness, nutrition, recreation and travel. Tech Notes brings you an overview of the latest in high-tech equipment, along with a sneak preview of what's on the drawing board. Finally, On Point showcases images of soldiers in action around the world.

Along with new departments we've updated the

magazine's look — the first such change in several years. This redesign gives the magazine a more modern appearance while capitalizing on the use of photos.

As always, we hope you find this month's issue of *Soldiers* interesting and informative.



John E. Suttle
Editor in Chief



Soldiers The Official U.S. Army Magazine

Acting Secretary of the Army
R. L. Brownlee

Chief of Staff
GEN Eric K. Shinseki

Chief of Public Affairs
MG Larry D. Gottardi

Chief, Command Information
COL James M. Allen

Soldiers Staff

Editor in Chief: LTC John E. Suttle

Managing Editor: Gil High

Production Editor: Steve Harding

Art Director: Helen Hall VanHoose

Associate Art Director: Paul Henry Crank

Senior Editor: Heike Hasenauer

Associate Editor: SFC Lisa Gregory

Photo Editor: SSG Alberto Betancourt

Special Products Editor: Beth Reece

Graphic Designer: LeRoy Jewell

Executive Secretary: Joseph T. Marsden

Printing: Gateway Press, Inc., Louisville, Ky.

Soldiers (ISSN 0093-8440) is published monthly by the Army Chief of Public Affairs to provide the Total Army with information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of the Army. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

■ **Send submissions and correspondence to Editor, *Soldiers*, 9325 Gunston Road, Suite S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.** Phone: (DSN) 656-4486 or commercial (703) 806-4486, or send e-mail to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

■ Unless otherwise indicated (and except for "by permission" and copyright items), material may be reprinted provided credit is given to **Soldiers** and the author.

■ All uncredited photographs by U.S. Army.

■ **Military distribution:** From the U.S. Army Distribution Operations Facility, 1655 Woodson Road, St. Louis, MO 63114-6181, in accordance with Initial Distribution Number (IDN) 050007 subscription requirements submitted by commanders.

■ The secretary of the Army has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law of the department. Funds for printing this publication were approved by the secretary of the Army in accordance with the provisions of Army Regulation 25-30. Library of Congress call number: U1.A827.

■ Periodicals postage paid at Fort Belvoir, Va., and additional mailing offices.

■ For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

■ **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Fort Belvoir address above.



A True Army of One

I NOW know for sure what the new Army motto, "Army of One," is all about: PFC Jessica Lynch is an "Army of One" and women in the services are standing as tall as the Statue of Liberty.

Keep up the terrific work with Soldiers magazine.

Tamas Judson
via e-mail

Legal Excellence

STEVEN Chucala's April "Legal Forum" article was great. It covered several topics that are of special importance to soldiers, and I posted it on our bulletin board here in the Bamberg Legal Assistance Office.

Keep up the great work.

Gary N. Jones
Bamberg, Germany

Another Camp Smith

IN reference to the letters asking about the location of Camp Smith in the February and April Feedback sections, there is also a Camp Smith in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y. It's just outside Peekskill, about nine miles southeast of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

SFC Elroy Grant
via e-mail

No Automatic LPN

I AM an instructor in the MOS 91W (health care specialist) course here at Fort Sam Houston, and my students and I really enjoyed your April issue.

However, the one-page 91W article on the issue's inside back cover might cause some confusion. Though the new MOS does replace the 91B and 91C designators, completion of the 91W does not get the student a license as a licensed practical nurse (LPN).

You have no idea how many soldiers come to the course thinking they'll receive an LPN license upon graduation. They do get a lot of training, but it's not even close to the 52-week course soldiers in the old 91C had to undergo to

get the license. After 16 weeks a 91W will receive a National Registry Emergency Medical Technician Basic (NREMT-B) certification upon successful completion of the exam.

I hope this helps clarify the misconception that a lot of people — especially recruiters! — have with the new MOS.

SFC Quinones
via e-mail

Great Map

I WOULD like to thank the Soldiers staff for the "Cool Map" in the March 2003 edition.

I hung a copy in my office here at Fort Riley, and almost every member of the National Guard and Army Reserve who passed through following activation for the war with Iraq wanted a copy. In fact, the demand was so great that I called Soldiers and you were kind enough to send us more.

Carol Hale
via e-mail

MAST Plus

I ENJOYED Heike Hasenauer's February article "MAST to the Rescue," though I'd like to clarify a few points.

While the author was correct in saying that the 68th Medical Company is the only Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic (MAST) unit in Hawaii, it's not the only air-ambulance provider. Hawaii Air Ambulance, a private fixed-wing air ambulance company based at Honolulu International Airport, has been providing inter-island air ambulance service for many years.

Hawaii Air Ambulance performs between 175 and 225 flights each month, which include the transportation of trauma patients from the outer-island hospitals to Oahu. The article left the impression that outer-island transports are arranged through a haphazard process of calling "for a commercial or privately-owned fixed-wing aircraft to help." Hawaii Air Ambulance medical crews are staffed by some of the most

experienced registered nurses and paramedics in the entire state.

I am a former Army aviator and am currently an Army Nurse Corp officer with the Army Reserve's 9th Regional Support Command. I have the highest respect for the pilots, crew chiefs and medics of the 68th Med. Co., but I also believe the medical crews of Hawaii Air Ambulance provide an important service to the entire state and deserve the credit due them.

1LT Don Kyle
via e-mail

What About Chaplains?

WHILE enjoying your 2003 Soldiers Almanac I noticed that on page 27 you neglected to display the insignia for the Chaplain Corps along with those of the other branches. What happened?

Chaplain (LTC) Don E. German
Ansbach, Germany

WE have the highest respect for Army chaplains, and it certainly wasn't an intentional snub. We'd like to be able to say that the devil made us do it, but must confess that we didn't include insignia for three of the Army's corps (including chaplains) simply because we couldn't find or create suitable graphic images in time to make the deadline for the Almanac issue.

For the latest on U.S. military developments around the world, check out:



The official Army Web site at www.army.mil



Access to both Soldiers Radio and Television and Army News at www.dtic.mil/armylink



Defense Department news at www.defenselink.mil

“The regime is at its end and its leaders are either dead, have surrendered or are on the run,” said Pentagon spokeswoman Torie Clarke at a recent press briefing.

Clarke also gave a progress report on the eight objectives of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The first was to eliminate the regime of Saddam Hussein, and Iraq is currently free of his influence. The second was to drive out terrorist organizations sheltered by Iraq. Clarke said that with the fall of Saddam, terrorists have lost their support. Collecting intelligence was the third objective, and Iraqis are bringing information to coalition forces.

Clarke said the fourth and fifth objectives concerned weapons of mass destruction. She added that suspect sites are being investigated and Iraqis are being encouraged to provide relevant information. The sixth is to secure Iraqi oil fields, which has been accomplished. The seventh is to end United Nations sanctions imposed against Iraq after the 1991 Gulf War and to begin sending humanitarian aid. The eighth goal is to help Iraq establish a representative government that doesn't threaten its neighbors, which is what coalition forces are assisting with at this time. — Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM





A soldier guards the entrance to a Baghdad power plant on April 21, the day Iraqi engineers started a steam turbine there that would eventually provide power to the city.

AP Photo/Dusan Vranic



OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

(Right) SPC Zachariah Johnson of the Army Reserve's 431st Civil Affairs Battalion meets a young Iraqi.

(Below, right) U.S. Central Command commander GEN Tommy Franks tours one of Saddam Hussein's palaces in Baghdad.

(Bottom) A plume of smoke, framed by a bullet-shattered window, rises on the Baghdad skyline.

(Below) 1LT Patrick Pray of Task Force 2-69 Armor pages through an Iraqi propaganda leaflet at a former elementary school.

PFC James Matise



SPC Adam Nuelken



SFC David Dismukes



SPC Adam Nuelken







(Above) CPT Bert LaCroix of the 411th Civil Affairs Bn. pours rice into a bag for a resident of Khan Ar Rabbah.

(Far right, top) LTG Jay Garner (Ret.), head of the civilian administration in Iraq, is greeted in Baghdad by MG Glen Webster.

(Far right, bottom) Soldiers of 3rd Bn., 187th Inf., play soccer with a local boy outside a Baghdad mosque.

(Right, middle) A photo of a 101st Abn. Div. soldier's girlfriend stays close and safe — inside his Kevlar helmet.

(Right) An elderly man sits beneath a pro-American slogan painted on a wall in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk.



AP Photo/Kevin Frayer



Operation Iraqi Freedom

SSG Eric Foltz



AP Photo/Odd Anderson/Pool



SPC Robert Woodward



SPC Robert Woodward



OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM



AP Photo/Kevin Frayer

(Clockwise, from right):

SGM Charles Smith of the 308th CA Bn. administers first aid to an Iraqi boy who'd fallen and cut his head near An Najaf.

SGT Michael Bush, a 101st Abn. Div. medic, hands boxes of medicine to workers in an Iraqi medical clinic.

BG Steven Hawkins, commander of an Army engineer task force, shakes hands with an Iraqi engineer during a visit to a Baghdad power plant.

LTC Randy Stagner of the 308th CA Bn. presents two Iraqi children with a humanitarian daily ration pack near An Najaf.

CPT Tom Roughneen smiles as he greets a newly baptized baby at the Catholic cathedral in Kirkuk.

MSG Christopher Calkins




AP Photo/Brennan Linsley





MSG Christopher Calkins

AMERICA

AND THE WAR ON TERRORISM

 The days of repression of the Iraqi people are over, said President George W. Bush to a group of Iraqi expatriates in Dearborn, Mich. "People who live in Iraq deserve the same freedom that you and I enjoy here in America," he said. "And after years of tyranny and torture, that freedom has finally arrived." Still, he cautioned, rebuilding Iraq will take time. The president added that the U.S. will ensure that all Iraqis have a voice in the new government. The president expressed his confidence that a free Iraq can "be an example of peace and prosperity and freedom to the entire Middle East."

 Kuwait is providing humanitarian assistance to Iraq while still hoping to recover its prisoners of war from the 1990 invasion. Kuwaiti relief agencies are providing food and medicine to several Iraqi cities. At the same time, Kuwait wants to step up efforts to locate some 600 prisoners of war it maintains Iraq still has from the 1990 occupation. At presstime one American, Navy pilot Michael Scott Speicher, was still unaccounted for from the 1991 Gulf War. According to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, the POW issue is one that Kuwait and the U.S. "share as a deep concern and an abiding interest."

 President George W. Bush visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center to thank wounded soldiers for their sacrifices and dedication while taking part in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. "I came to thank the troops and their families and their loved ones for their sacrifice. I also want to thank the staff of the hospital, the leadership, the doctors, the nurses and the people who care for those who have been hurt, for their extraordinary service to fellow Americans," said Bush.



PFC James Matise

Savin

Story by Denver Beaulieu-Hains

Boots & Coots oil workers assess a well at the Ramaila Oilfield in Iraq before they begin capping it.

SFC David K. Dismukes



Senior oil well specialist Bud Curtis looks over the Ramalyah Oil Fields in Southern Iraq.



PFC Mary Rose Xenikakis

g the Oil Wells

"We're prepared to do what's necessary to extinguish the fires, restore wells and put them back in production to help preserve Iraq's economy."

WHILE U.S. and coalition forces continued their advance to Baghdad, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was tasked to extinguish the oil-well fires in Southern Iraq.

USACE contractors in Iraq have been working with coalition forces to assess what needs to be done to put the fires out.

"This mission gives us the chance to support our troops, ensure their safety and support our nation. It brings together civilians, reservists and active-duty military personnel into an experienced, enthusiastic Corps team dedicated to getting the job done as quickly and smoothly as possible," said the Corps' lead contractor for its deployed Forward Engineering Support Team. Because he was working in the combat zone, he asked to remain anonymous.

Denver Beaulieu-Hains works for the USACE Public Affairs Office. LTC Gene Pawlik, USACE's deputy public affairs officer, also contributed to this article.

The Department of Defense designated the Army as executive agent for implementing plans to extinguish oil-well fires and to assess the damage to oil facilities during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Corps contracted with the Texas-based firm Kellogg Brown & Root to extinguish the fires to limit environmental damage and prevent health hazards to local residents and coalition forces.

KBR was instrumental in planning the oil-well fire-fighting mission in response to the Kuwaiti oil fires during Operation Desert Storm in 1991, said USACE officials. KBR prepared the current contingency plans for the government under the Army Field Support Command's Logistics Civil Augmentation Program.

A Texas sub-contractor, Boots and Coots International Well Control, is studying the feasibility of using a water-based system to put out the fires. Contractors also are evaluating the differences between Iraq's northern and southern oil fields, including such factors as the depth of the wells and the amount of pressure in each.

During Operation Desert Storm there were about 700 oil-well fires burning in Kuwait. Oil spills in the Arabian Gulf caused by sabotaged pipelines also posed problems, as did oil-filled trenches that were ignited in an attempt to obscure targets.


The Corps' work in Iraq will include engineering design and repair or reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, facilities operation and

PFC Mary Rose Xenikakis



Camels graze the desert around the Rumaylah Oil Fields as a blazing oil well sends flames high into the air.

product distribution, if required. USACE personnel are prepared to do what's necessary to extinguish the fires, restore the wells and put them back in production to help preserve Iraq's economy.

USACE has been supporting Operation Enduring Freedom since September 2001. More recently, it has been building barracks and training facilities for U.S. troops and the Afghan national army in Afghanistan. 



After the Medevac

Story and Photos by
Heike Hasenauer



WHEN SSG William Johnston, a technician with the 763rd Explosive Ordnance Detachment from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., had several of his fingers blown off in Afghanistan, he was stabilized and quickly medevaced to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. There he underwent skin-graft surgery and eventually received a prosthetic hand.

As bad as the situation was, it could certainly have been worse, said Johnston. He could have lost his entire arm — or been killed. He doesn't dwell on what could have happened, he said. He's only looking ahead. With his upbeat attitude comes high praise for a recently introduced program at LRMC that, he said, has supported him every step of the way.

This is DWMMC

The Deployed Warrior Medical Management Center, DWMMC, in operation since March 2002, is specifically geared toward helping soldiers deployed in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom who require medical care, whether they've been injured in combat or need routine attention.

Between March 22 and April 3, 226 service members involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom arrived at LRMC, said its commander, COL David Rubenstein.

"Ninety-six of those patients had suffered battle injuries," he said.

Among the patients evacuated to LRMC was PFC Jessica Lynch of the 507th Maintenance Company, who was rescued by special operations forces after being taken prisoner by Iraqi troops.

The DWMMC is essentially a group of people who track patients' medical evacuations, monitor departures from "downrange" and their arrivals, record medical information

into a computerized system before patients arrive, meet them when the medevac helicopter lands at LRMC, and ensure that everything's set up to accommodate the patients — from billeting to chow and medical appointments.

"When I got here, I had nothing," said Johnston. "The special forces medic who stabilized me in Kandahar stripped off my bloody trousers. My ID card was in my pants pocket with everything else in my wallet. It's good someone had the forethought to bring me a change of clothes from the DWMMC lending closet so I didn't have to walk across the parking lot naked."

DWMMC's Origins

"After U.S. forces went into Afghanistan, we knew we'd have more patients coming into the hospital," said Jeff Frazier, the deputy chief of patient administration. "We needed to have a way to track them and provide them whatever they needed."

"We had a basic program in place, called the Referral Support Center," said Rubenstein. "It consisted of a few soldiers, but no doctors or nurses."

The DWMMC has one physician, two nurses as case managers, and eight support personnel, mostly medics. The group is augmented by the hospital chaplain's office and American Red Cross personnel, who help set up patient appointments, said patient administration NCOIC SGT Wayne Broom.

"Our mission is to ensure that a deployed patient coming from Saudi Arabia or Afghanistan, as examples, comes into our system and is immediately cared for, so he or she can return to the United States as quickly as possible," said Broom.

Since October 2001 — when there was only a two-person air-evacuation center operating at Landstuhl to respond directly on

The DWMMC helps soldiers deployed in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom who require medical care.

The DWMMC's SPC Anthony Sloan works with German emergency medical personnel to load a simulated casualty aboard a UH-60 helicopter during a training exercise. (LRMC photo)



behalf of Operation Enduring Freedom personnel — 900 patients have arrived from Afghanistan. They included joint-service members, Defense Department civilians and contractors injured by hostile fire, stabbings, helicopter crashes and mine blasts.

The center also received amputees and patients suffering with everything from appendicitis and kidney stones to toothaches, Broom said.

Variety of Patients and Injuries

Rubenstein said 11 percent of the 900 patients were combat casualties. The remainder suffered non-battle injuries and diseases.

Service members from Australia, Canada, Great Britain and Norway have been brought to the DWMMC, Rubenstein said, as have CIA agents and a Canadian reporter.

On a recent day, COL Larry Rogers, a Reservist with the 360th Civil Affairs Battalion from Fort Jackson, S.C., who was deployed to Bosnia, arrived at LRMC after spending some time in the emergency room at the military hospital in Bosnia

Wounded EOD technician SSG William Johnston gets an update on his condition from his physician at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

with severe chest pains. At LRMC he learned that one of his coronary arteries is 70 percent blocked and he'll be sent back to the United States for further treatment.

SPC Alexis Wilson, a member of the 125th Signal Battalion from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and deployed to the Middle East, came for tests and observation to find out why his blood-sugar level has soared and his vision is blurred.

Army Reservist CW2 Drew Webb from the St. Louis, Mo.,-based 329th Quartermaster Battalion, who was deployed to Camp Stronghold, Uzbekistan, flew in for routine oral surgery.

SPC David Knuutila, a Reservist with the 339th Combat Support Hospital in Bagram, Afghanistan, was flown in to get a herniated disk repaired. SPC Kristina Kennedy, of the same unit, came for a consultation with doctors about a cancerous mass they'd found in her body. And Chap-

lain (CPT) Archie Simmons of the 87th Combat Support Bn., at Fort Stewart, Ga., who was serving in Africa, arrived at DWMMC after spending time in the intensive care unit of a French-run hospital in Africa, also with chest pains.

"The most memorable event for me as part of the DWMMC staff came after Operation Anaconda in Afghanistan, when 10th Mountain Division soldiers who had suffered combat-related injuries arrived at the DWMMC," said Broom. "One of them told me about their helicopter being shot down. And, seeing him clinging to another soldier in order to stand upright, I could only imagine what they'd been through. It made me realize for the first time that there was really a war going on over there."

When U.S. special forces soldiers were injured in the very first bomb attack in Afghanistan, they were also flown to LRMC, said DWMMC's SPC Thomas Livingston. Collectively, they'd suffered burns, shrapnel injuries and lost limbs.

Of the patients DWMMC has received, some 600 have been Army personnel, said Livingston. They stay at the hospital anywhere from 24 hours to three weeks. The average stay is one week.

An Air Force computerized tracking system accounts for patients who are en route to LRMC and provides information to the hospital well in advance of the patient's arrival, including the care he or she requires and, in the case of combat injuries, whether or not psychological counseling or other specific care will be needed, Broom said.

"During Desert Storm, LRMC personnel had an idea of how many patients would be medevaced in, but they didn't have specific information about individuals' medical conditions to speed up their care upon arrival," said Livingston. "As many as 200 patients arrived per day during that time. And there was a lot of scram-

“DWMMC personnel are the first medical responders the arriving patients see upon arrival at LRMC,” said Livingston.

bling to get them where they needed to go.”

Two or three people from the DWMMC now meet each medevac helicopter flight coming in through the program. “Sometimes we get three birds in one night. Sometimes we go for three days without even one bird coming in,” Livingston said. “On a busy day, we’ve had as many as 25 patients arrive at once.”

“DWMMC personnel are the first medical responders the arriving patients see upon arrival at LRMC,” said Livingston. “If the doctor isn’t waiting at the landing pad when the patient comes off the helicopter, we, the medics, take vital statistics and patient history, before returning to our admin role.”

DWMMC representatives log the patient data into their computer system and transport outpatients to billeting. Additionally, members of the DWMMC provide clothing for patients who need it and accompany them to the post exchange to purchase other needed items. They also contact the Red Cross or finance office if patients need money, and arrange patients’ transportation home following their release from the hospital.

Numerous government organizations and commercial enterprises support the DWMMC, providing everything from free accommodations for families to clothing, snacks, even videos, phone cards, cameras and watches, Livingston said.

Land’s End-Europe and Nike help furnish clothing and shoes that are available free of charge to Operation Enduring Freedom patients through DWMMC’s lending closet, Livingston said.

Other organizations that support the DWMMC include the USO, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Fisher House, Girl Scouts of

America, Kodak and Timex.

“What this program has really provided,” said Livingston, “is a central office to which commanders can call to learn the status of their soldiers.”

And, on a more personal level, through DWMMC, the soldiers who arrive here and are hurting — for any

of a number of reasons — know they’re not alone. Many people are going to help them, no matter the time of night or day, said Rubenstein.

“I’ve forgotten the names of some of the people who offered me help,” said Johnston, “but I haven’t forgotten what help was offered. It’s been very reassuring.”



SPC Zsuzsanna Lee helps LRMC patients who are in temporary need of clothing find what they need in DWMMC’s lending closet.

Training a Force

Story by SGT Henry Kwan



LTC John Randt

SSG Rene Fournier (*right*) of the Fort Knox, Ky., NCO Academy instructs Iraqi volunteers at Tazsar, Hungary, as an Arabic interpreter translates.

WHILE coalition forces were preparing for the war with Iraq, a team of U.S. soldiers in Tazsar, Hungary, was training the first groups of Iraqi volunteers who will play a critical role in restoring peace in postwar Iraq.

MG David Barno, commander of Task Force Warrior, said these Iraqi exiles will assist in civil-military operations, acting as interpreters and guides, and deploy with civil-affairs units that will move into different areas, after combat, to help provide food, shelter and other relief to civilians displaced by the war.

The Free Iraqi Forces, as they are called, were recruited in the United States, Canada and Western Europe. But while they wear battle-dress uniforms with "FIF" patches on their shoulders and carry 9mm pistols in the field, they're not intended to join front-line combat units, Barno told Pentagon reporters in a February telephone interview.

Task Force Warrior, stationed at Tazsar Air Base, about 120 miles from Budapest, comprises soldiers from more than 30 Army units. The core cadre

SGT Henry Kwan is assigned to the 69th Press Camp Headquarters in Tazsar, Hungary.

comes from the 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, from Fort Jackson, S.C. But other soldiers involved in the training of the Iraqi volunteers come from Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Polk, La.; Fort Knox, Ky.; and Fort Benning, Ga. The team also includes members of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve.

Despite the number of participating units, soldiers in the task force excelled in working as a team, Barno said.

He also thanked the Hungarian government, which has made it possible for the Army to train up to 3,000 Iraqis this year, who will be able to help bring stability to Iraq. The Hungarians provided an "almost ideal training location, and our troops are being extremely well taken care of,"

Barno said.

The Americans graduated their first FIF cohort in February and have incorporated lessons learned into the most recent training sessions.

The training is given in two phases, Barno said, and courses are taught in both English and Arabic.

The first phase, conducted by basic-training drill sergeants from Fort Jackson, includes instruction on such basic skills as map reading, drill and ceremony, rank structure, first aid, landmine identification and the use of the 9mm pistol. Also included are classes in the law of armed conflict and ethical decision making.

"They are eager to learn and they ask a lot of questions," said SFC Michael Torano, a drill sergeant who taught much of the basic military skills portion of the training to the first group of volunteers. "They know how important this is to their mission," he said.

In the second phase the volunteers work with civil-affairs specialists from U.S.

Special Operations Command. They're

taught how to coordinate humanitarian aid between the U.S. military and such relief groups as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

The Americans graduated their first FIF cohort in February and have incorporated lessons learned into the most recent training sessions.

for Freedom

The Iraqi recruits range in age from 18 to 55. Many are businessmen or teachers with advanced degrees. They represent all regions and the three main ethnic groups in Iraq, Barno said. Before arriving in Hungary they endured a rigorous screening process intended to ensure they have no connections to Saddam Hussein or terrorism.

Each volunteer has shown remarkable dedication, said SFC Clarence Kugler, an instructor from the 350th Civil Affairs Command in Pensacola, Fla.

"They came here because of their convictions and beliefs in a free Iraq, and you can see they share that common thread," Kugler said.

SGM George Duncan, a senior enlisted leader of the

task force, said the instructors adjusted their style of training to better accommodate some of the differences in age and culture. But the way they trained the volunteers was essentially similar to the way they train U.S. soldiers, he said.

"Our biggest challenge was to build an entire training facility and program from the ground up. Since then, the instructors have executed the training with great determination and purpose, and produced a force that's ready to do its job in support of U.S. and coalition forces," Duncan said.

Once finished with the training the volunteers go to the U.S. Central Command area of operations, where they'll assist in the rebuilding of Iraq. 🇺🇸

SSG Kevin P. Bell



A FIF member working with soldiers of the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion explains to residents of Najaf how much water they can draw from a nearby water tank. FIF members proved extremely valuable as coalition forces moved into Iraq.

The Ammo S



WAR is dangerous enough without adding to it the perils that come from handling, moving and storing munitions. For the American soldiers working ammunition operations in the Kuwaiti desert before the outbreak of war, that meant minimizing risks while receiving and supplying the volatile armaments stockpiled to support the units on the frontlines.

To do that, they rely on people like Daniel Brown, an ammunition logistics assistant from Joint Munitions

Bob Whistine is an Army Materiel Command public affairs officer currently working in Kuwait.

“I want to make sure every soldier who handles ammunition in any way goes home whole and healthy ...”

Command, Rock Island, Ill., whose job title is “Quality Assurance Specialist (Ammunition Surveillance)” or QASAS.

“I make sure the commander in the field has the information he needs to determine what risks are acceptable, based on operational requirements,” Brown said in an

pecialists

Story and Photos by Bob Whistine



interview a few weeks before the fighting started. “I want to make sure every soldier who handles ammunition in any way goes home whole and healthy. I see explosives safety as my prime objective.”

The QASAS played many roles in Kuwait, Brown said. “One is to support the forward-deployed units as they set up their ammunition-holding areas and upload their vehicles. I also investigate any malfunctions that might occur.

“My primary objective is to provide the troops on the ground technical advice concerning the storage, deployment, and safety of ammunition and explosives,” Brown said.

Coping with desert heat and sand was only one aspect of munitions operations in Kuwait before the war, Brown said.

(Above, far left) Keith Brailsford, quality-assurance specialist (ammunition surveillance), inspects 7.62mm rounds to determine serviceability.

(Above) Members of Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery, uncrate 155mm rounds destined for the battalion's Paladin self-propelled howitzers.

Early on, commanders faced tougher restrictions because they were technically operating under peacetime regulations.

When field conditions or mission requirements kept commanders from meeting those standards, the QASAS was there to advise them on how to lower risk factors for both soldiers and equipment.

“The QASAS works with any unit that might have an ammo question or problem, to ensure that their ammunition is safe and serviceable when needed.”

In Kuwait, as elsewhere, safety was always the first consideration. But before construction on a storage site could begin, commanders had to get approval from the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board.

Factors such as density of barricades, the net quantities and types of explosives, and the weight of the explosives all had to be considered when planning ammunition-holding areas.

“In Kuwait, QASAS laid out the basic designs for all the AHAs, to minimize the hazard to the troops and equipment,” Brown said.

“The barricades were large mounds of sand. If we have an accident, or an AHA takes a hit from an incoming round,

the barricades must be able to inhibit the explosion of the ammo in adjacent pads,” he explained.

Each type of unit or storage site has its own requirements and risks, Brown said.

“Aviation units with guided missiles operate differently than combat engineers, who use explosive charges to remove obstacles,” Brown said. “The QASAS works with any unit that might have an ammo question or problem, to ensure that their ammunition is safe and serviceable when needed.”

QASASs, who train at the Defense Ammunition Center in McAlester, Okla., have been deployed in every war or conflict since World War II. 🇺🇸



Once rounds are uncrated, they are loaded aboard the waiting Palladins.

Be a part of your magazine

Send Your Photos to Soldiers

Soldiers is already planning the 2004 almanac and once again needs your help.

A large part of each almanac is "This Is Our Army," a photo feature that tells the Army story at the local level.

If you have candid photos of the Army family at work or play, send them in NOW. **The only restriction is that your photos should be taken between Aug. 19, 2002, and Aug. 18, 2003, and be sent to us by Sept. 1.**

Soldiers prefers color prints or slides. **We do not need fancy 8x10 prints** — regular 4x6 prints will do. We also accept digital images, but they must be very high resolution. If your images can fit onto a floppy disk, they are too small. Please do not send prints made from digital images. Also, please **DO NOT** e-mail photo submissions.

To enter, complete a copy of the form below and attach it to each photo you send. **Photos without complete caption information will not be considered.** Photos and accompanying information cannot be returned.

If you have questions, contact our photo editor by phone at (703) 806-4504 or (DSN) 656-4504, or via e-mail to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

Mail your entries to: **Soldiers; ATTN: Photo Editor; 9325 Gunston Rd., Suite S-108; Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.**

"Writing and Shooting for Soldiers Magazine" and the Soldiers Style Guide are both available at www.soldiersmagazine.com.

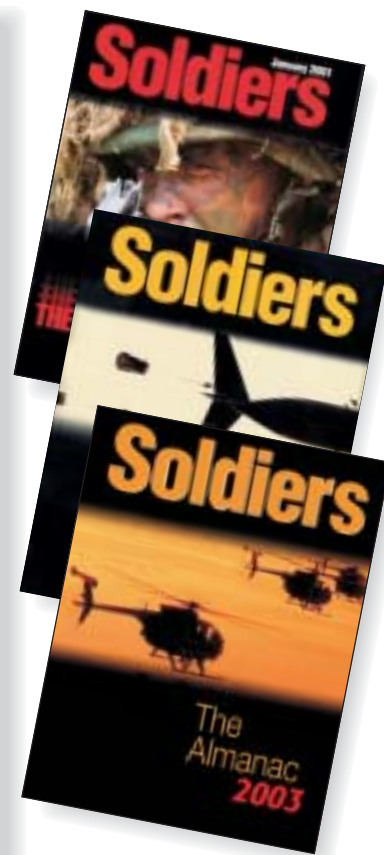
10

Tips for Photo Success

MORE than half the photos we receive each year never make it to the final selection process, mostly for avoidable reasons. Follow these simple tips to be sure your photos have the best chance of being selected.

1. Complete the accompanying entry form and carefully attach it to the back of each photo you send, or provide a way of linking it to each image.
2. Make sure your package is postmarked by the Sept. 1, 2003 deadline.
3. Send only photos taken between Aug. 19, 2002, and Aug. 18, 2003.
4. Check closely to be sure your photos don't show obvious uniform or safety violations.
5. Identify people in each photo by full name, rank and correct unit designation; and provide a means of contacting you if we have any questions about the information you've sent.
6. Don't send snapshots of people staring into the camera. Candid photos are usually better.
7. Send only quality images: No Polaroids; no out-of-focus, discolored or torn images; and no prints from digital images.
8. Don't write on the back of your prints, because this may damage the images. Also, avoid using staples and paper clips on photos.
9. Protect your images. Use cardboard to reinforce your package before you mail.
10. If you plan to send digital images, follow the guidelines in our Style Guide, posted on

Soldiers Online at
www.soldiersmagazine.com



Soldiers

"This Is Our Army" Entry Form

Photographer's full name (and rank if military)

e-mail address

Phone

Street address

City (APO)

State

Zip

Photocopy this entry form and attach a copy to each photo you submit.

Where and when was the photo taken? (Use approximate date if necessary.)

Describe the action in the photo. (Include full name, rank and unit of those pictured.)

Mail to: **Soldiers, ATTN: Photo Editor, 9325 Gunston Rd., Suite S-108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581.** Photos must have been taken between Aug. 19, 2002, and Aug. 18, 2003. Color prints and slides are acceptable. Photos that are obviously posed or that show obvious uniform or safety violations will be disqualified. Entries cannot be returned and must be postmarked by Sept. 1, 2003. For more information see **Soldiers Online** at www.soldiersmagazine.com.

Afghanistan

During Operation Viper, a soldier from the 82nd Airborne Division's Company B, 2nd Battalion, 504th Infantry Regiment, climbs into a small hole to search for suspected Taliban and weapon caches at a compound in Afghanistan's Bahram Valley.

— Photo by SPC Preston Cheeks





Philippines: ►

A U.S. Army special forces soldier conducts security-assistance training for members of the Philippines armed forces in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The training is designed to assist and advise Philippine forces in order to refine their counter-terrorism capabilities.

— Photo by PH1 Edward G. Martens, USN





Kosovo ▲▼

Soldiers from the 1st Inf. Div.'s 2nd Battalion, 63rd Armor, patrol the border between Kosovo and Macedonia in support of Operation Joint Guardian II.

— Photo by SGT April Johnson

Korea ▲

During Exercise Foal Eagle 2nd Infantry Division soldiers inside an M1A1 Abrams tank scan the area for “enemy” forces during a tank battle scenario at Camp Red Cloud’s Twin Bridges training area.

— Photo by Sgt. Efren Lopez, USAF





◀ FORCE PROVIDER: SHELTERS GET SPACIOUS

WHEN Joyce Taylor of the U.S. Army Materiel Command's Program Management Office for Logistic Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) arrived in Kuwait in September 2002, plans were developed to construct six Force-Provider Modules that would provide bedding for nearly 3,500 soldiers.

"Today, the six Force-Provider Modules and festival-tent communities built under the LOGCAP contract provide bed-down for 15,500 troops, and everyday brings new requests," Taylor said.

Force Providers are a combination of military and commercial products that provide climate-controlled billeting, quality dining facilities, hygiene services and morale, welfare and recreation facilities for deployed troops.

The military camps in Kuwait vary in size, from about 500 to 6,500 people. Force Provider modules vary in size to accommodate 550 to 3,300 people each.

The basic building block is the Tent Expendable Modular Personnel (TEMPER), each of which has an environmental control unit.

Force Providers come complete with water and fuel storage, power generation and distribution, and wastewater collection systems. They're containerized and preconfigured for easy movement by land, air and sea.

A typical camp requires five to 10 acres of land. Site preparation takes three to four days, and an entire camp can be fully operational in about 14 days.

Force Providers have made high-quality living conditions possible in Haiti, Cuba, Bosnia, Guatemala, Honduras and various locations in Kuwait in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. — *Bob Whistine, AMC-LSE*

A BETTER COMMAND POST

MORE space is what the Army wanted for its tactical operations centers, and that's what it will get with the Large Standard Integrated Command Post System being developed at the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass. The LSICPS will provide 450 square feet of space, making it nearly four times the size of the current Modular Command Post Tent System.

Four proposed shelters were independently tested last fall at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., to become part of the LSICPS system. Of those, the two most likely to meet the Army's needs are the improved Tent Extended Modular Personnel (TEMPER) and modified Modular General Purpose Tent System (MGPTS), said Frank Kostka, 21st Century Fabric Structures Group team leader.

An enclosed space for the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system and an integral liner for overhead lighting further simplify the system. Other components of the TEMPER LSICPS are an electrical distribution system, tables and map boards.

The LSICPS is scheduled for initial fielding to the 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Alaska in 2004. — *Soldier Systems Center*



For more information on the new system center, go to www.sbccom.army.mil.

BAT: AIDING THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY ►

A CRIME suspect or enemy detainee can be easily and accurately enrolled in what's called the Biometrics Automated Toolset, or BAT — a computerized personnel-identification system developed at the Battle Command Battle Laboratory at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. — in the time it takes someone to press the subject's index finger against a pocket-sized scanner and take his digital photo.

It's possible through biometrics, the science of establishing an individual's identity by his unique physical features. Scientists have found that there are physiological biometric identifiers — facial measurements, hand geometry, color and pattern of the iris and retina, as well as unique behavioral identifiers, such as speech and signature — that distinguish each individual.

BAT uses two forms of identification and recognition — fingerprinting and face recognition — to build electronic dossiers tied to biometric signatures.

The BAT's small size and user-friendly format make it an ideal system for use in the field. It can run on any computer using Windows 2000. Using off-the-shelf biometrics software and hardware, with the wraparound software developed at Fort Huachuca, the Battle Lab team designed BAT to identify and register prisoners of war, refugees, and other people of interest to officials in the intelligence community.

BAT has already been deployed to Camp Bondsteel, in Kosovo, to military police units in Hawaii, and users in Southwest Asia



and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. V Corps units in Germany, soldiers at Fort Bragg, N.C., and Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif., are currently evaluating BAT for their potential use.

Through BAT, detainees and POWs are photographed, have their fingerprints scanned and their names and aliases typed into the computer in about a minute. The flexibility of the system also allows other types of information to be easily included in an individual's record.

Civilian and military law enforcement agencies and other government organizations have expressed interest in the BAT system to interface with their current systems. —*Pat Dillingham, USAIC&FH Public Affairs Office, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.*

NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR SOF MEDICS ►

WHEN special operations medics returned from Afghanistan, they said they needed something to prevent wounded soldiers from hemorrhaging. They needed blood-clotting technology, and a tourniquet that wounded soldiers could apply to themselves, said Dr. (COL) David Hammer, U.S. Special Operations Command surgeon.

One year later SOF medics are armed with a two types of hemostatic bandages that can stop severe bleed-

ing within two minutes, and a tourniquet a soldier can apply with just one hand.

There are two types of blood-clotting bandages, said MSG Michael Brochu, Hammer's senior enlisted advisor: the fibrin dressing and the chitosan dressing. The latter is FDA-approved, but the manufacturing process is still being refined.

"The fibrin bandage is impregnated with human blood-clotting factors in the material," Brochu said. "When applied



to a wound, the bandage actually becomes part of the blood clot." After about two minutes the bandage actually seals the wound, and clotting begins. —*Jennifer Whittle, USSOCOM PAO* 🇺🇸



◀ PRACTICING FOR PRISONERS

Camp New York, Kuwait

FOR soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division's 3rd Military Police Battalion, handling enemy prisoners of war is a main mission, said MSG Tony McGee.

During a two-day exercise before the outbreak of war, the MPs set up a central enemy prisoner of war collection point at Camp New York to hone their EPW-handling skills.

McGee said the training focused on transferring and accounting for EPWs, their belongings and their weapons.

"If we go to war, officials expect large numbers of EPWs," he said. "Our soldiers' ability to handle that mission proficiently is extremely important."

"One of the primary differences between the Army and many of our adversaries' armies is that we treat prisoners of war with dignity and respect," said CSM Charles D. Medley.

He added that many times enemy soldiers are quick to surrender to Americans because they know they'll be housed and fed, and won't be mistreated.

"We constantly reinforce this to our MPs," he said. "Enemy prisoners of war are soldiers who fought on the other side, but they're still human beings."

Younger soldiers said the training was valuable.

"This was good training," said PV2 Ashley Hargett. "I learned what I need to do and what I need to improve on."

Although Hargett said she's nervous about the prospect of putting her training to use, she's not scared.

"I have a lot of confidence in my team," she said. "We have a lot of soldiers with experience who will help those of us with less experience."

— SPC Katherine Robinson, 50th Public Affairs Detachment

SPC Katherine Robinson

U.S., KOREAN SOLDIERS PARTICIPATE IN FRIENDSHIP RUN ▶

Camp Red Cloud, Korea

LED by their commanding generals and spurred on by catchy cadences in both English and Korean, soldiers from the 2nd Inf. Div. and Korea's 28th Div. teamed for the first 6-mile Friendship Run.

"I think this run symbolized the unity, power and strength of the U.S. and Republic of Korea armies," said CPT Dennis Ifurung, commander of Company C, 3rd Bn., 503rd Inf. Regiment.

Maj. Gen. Yun Il-Young, the commander of the 28th Div., said a strong bond exists between both country's armies and expressed gratitude for the support the United States has given his country over the years.

"In the Korean War we fought together for freedom," he said. "For the past 50 years we've defended that freedom together. I thank all the U.S. soldiers who've helped forge this bond."

— PVT Scott Akanewich, 2nd Inf. Div. Public Affairs Office



PV2 Scott Akanewich

ROCK, PAPER SCISSORS, FLAG ►

PFC Nick Esenwick, a parachute rigger with the 82nd Airborne Div.'s Co. E, 782nd Logistical Task Force, lays rocks to form a large American flag in front of his sleeping tent at Kuwait's Camp Champion.

SPC Andrew Kosterman



GUARD SOLDIERS TREK 1,000 MILES

Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

THE first leg of the deployment of the North Dakota National Guard's 957th Engineer Co. for possible duty in Southwest Asia was an 88-vehicle convoy from Bismarck, N.D., to Fort Leonard Wood.

1SG Kevin Remington said the trip allowed the unit's soldiers — who specialize in bridge building — to bond and provided an excellent opportunity to hone their driving skills.

"We're one of the country's first National Guard units to be equipped with new Oshkosh Common Bridge Transport trucks," said Remington.

He said the CBT is used to transport the components of the multi-role bridge the unit is tasked to erect. The 14-wheeled, 20-ton vehicle consists of an Oshkosh Heavy Expandable Mobility Tactical Truck, combined with a multi-lift load-handling system that also accommodates the ribbon bridge and combat support boat.


During the 1,000-mile trek from Bismarck to Fort Leonard

Wood the 181 soldiers became celebrities — people in towns along the way waved them through the streets with American flags, and truckers at rest stops wanted to shake their hands.

"I had a Desert Storm veteran give me a scarf with the words 'United We Stand' embroidered around the U.S. flag," said SSG John Walters. "He wants me to take it overseas with me. That meant a lot to me."

For some of the soldiers, leaving loved ones was the hardest thing they ever did, they said.

"It's extremely difficult leaving our 9-month old baby at home," said SSG Kelli Hatzenbuehler. She and her husband, Wade, both deployed with the unit. At the same time, they felt proud to answer their country's call to service, they said.

"I've been waiting and looking forward to this call since Sept. 11," said SSG Rita Eslinger. "We all left someone we love behind. We'll miss them, but we'll return to them as veterans." 

— CPT Chuck Mussi, National Guard Bureau PAO



Nutrition

EATING ON THE RUN

KEEPING their weight down can be a challenge for soldiers who spend lots of time on the road or in the field.



To maintain a healthy lifestyle on the road:

◆ Don't skip breakfast. Eat high-fiber cereals and breads, low-fat dairy products and fruit.

◆ Carry meal-replacement bars or fruit. Some food manufacturers offer such healthy, portable snacks as reduced-fat crackers, fig bars, rice cakes, low-fat popcorn and bran muffins.

◆ Many restaurants have added health-conscious items to their menus. Opt for lean, baked meats instead of fried, high-fat varieties. Choose a baked chicken sandwich and salad instead of a cheeseburger and fries, for example.

◆ If your only resort is the vending machine, go for pretzels instead of chips.

◆ Eat the main meal before the snacks in MREs.

◆ Drink lots of water.

◆ Avoid weight-loss products that contain ephedrine, an herb claimed to increase metabolism and stimulate weight loss. This supplement has been widely reported to cause serious illness and even death, and is under investigation by the Food and Drug Administration.



SKIN CANCER: MORE COMMON THAN YOU MIGHT THINK

WITH the summer sun comes a disease that kills nearly one million Americans each year: skin cancer. According to the American Academy of Dermatology, one in five Americans develops skin cancer.

"Its prevention is simple, yet difficult for Americans to value since a bronze tan is part of our cultural vision of beauty," said COL Frances J. Sorge, of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

Parts of the body that are regularly exposed to the sun — face, ears, hands, forearms and shoulders — are most vulnerable to skin cancer. People who work outdoors, such as soldiers, and those with fair skin are at greater risk.

The best defense against skin cancer is to avoid the sun. Those who have to go outdoors should apply a minimum 15 Sun Protection Factor sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside, and reapply it hourly if swimming or sweating.

The use of sunscreen shouldn't be considered an excuse to stay in the sun longer, Sorge added, as ultraviolet rays still penetrate sunscreen and can damage the skin. These rays are strongest between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and can cause burning even on cloudy days. Ultraviolet rays in tanning salons also cause skin cancer.



Check out
www.cancer.gov and
www.aad.org.

Leisure

ARE WE THERE YET?

SCHOOL is out. Summer vacations are in. Long road trips can sour anyone's mood for fun, but a sense of humor and preparation can make traveling easier.

Aside from road-safety kits recommended by most travel agencies, families should pack sanity-survival kits for the ride. Let children pack their own bags of favorite toys, music and snacks, for example. And take enough pillows and lightweight blankets for everyone to get comfortable.

A safe, maintained car will help keep travel problem-free. Things to get checked include brakes, filters, belts, fluid levels, wiper blades, turn signals, tire tread, tire pressure and oil. If your car has wheel locks to prevent it from being stolen, make sure you can find the key in case of a flat tire.

Road conditions, construction zone information and the locations of rest areas are available online at www.freetraveltips.com, which offers links to the departments of transportation for all states.

Check these sites when planning your vacation:
www.armymwr.com
www.govarm.com



Family

STAYING IN TOUCH

DEPLOYED overseas? Talk to loved ones by calling the Defense System Network Worldwide operator at (DSN) 231-1311 for the number of the DSN switch nearest your home. The local DSN operator or automated switch used on some posts will connect you to a civilian line. From there, use a phone card or call collect to your home number at standard U.S. long-distance rates.



Weddings B

Story and Photos by MSG Bob Haskell

"We wanted to know that God would be watching over both of us — as one — if we deploy to the Persian Gulf and it gets ugly there."



Maine Army National Guard Chaplain (MAJ) Andrew Gibson blesses the marriage of SPC Mary Welch and PFC Jesse Quirion at the Augusta State Armory in Augusta, Maine, on March 1.

WHEN SPC Mary Welch and PFC Jesse Quirion exchanged wedding vows recently, the bride, the groom, the maid of honor and the best man all wore BDUs. So did Chaplain (MAJ) Andrew Gibson of the Maine Army Guard's 52nd Troop Command, who officiated.

Welch and Quirion were married at the Augusta State Armory, on a drill weekend, in the presence of members of the 152nd Maintenance Company, their National Guard unit that, in March, was preparing to go to war.

MSG Bob Haskell works at the National Guard Bureau Public Affairs Office.

The company had been alerted for duty in the Persian Gulf region, but had not yet received a mobilization order sending them to Fort Drum, N.Y., to await further orders.

The first weekend in March was a high point in the war against terrorism. Khalid Shaikh Mohammad, the alleged mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks against the United States, was arrested in Pakistan. And Iraq began destroying its Al Samoud-2 missiles, as ordered by the United Nations.

At that time, optimists hoped this was an indication that war with Iraq might be avoided. The events also minimized the chances that the

maintenance company would actually deploy.

"Nevertheless," said Jesse, "it seemed like a good idea to tie the knot, in case we did get the call to move out." Before the couple was put on alert status, they had planned to be married in July.

"We wanted to know that God would be watching over both of us — as one — if we deploy to the Persian Gulf and it gets ugly there," Jesse added. "We want to be as one as much as possible."

That feeling is shared by many soldiers faced with the uncertainties of deploying to the tense region, said Gibson, who spent nine months in

efore War

1997 on peacekeeping duty in Bosnia. Knowing that his wife and three children were waiting back home was a great comfort, he said.

As many as 25 Maine Army Guard soldiers were married in February, said Gibson, who performed seven of the services. Besides conducting the marriage service for soldiers of the 152nd Maint. Co., Gibson married soldiers from two other units that have been mobilized.

Two soldiers in the 112th Medical Co. from Bangor, and four members of the 1136th Transportation Co. from Bangor and Sanford were married by Gibson in private ceremonies, before those units departed for mobilization stations at Fort Drum and Fort Dix, N.J.

"This is a time of great uncertainty; the future is so unknown that couples want to gain a sense of stability," Gibson said of their desire to marry. "Individuals turn to the person they know best for that stability. It gives them a sense of peace, because the love they have for each other is strong."

Legal issues also come into play, Gibson said. Marriage ensures that dependents back home are entitled to health care, insurance benefits, and exchange and commissary privileges provided by the government.

Most of the National Guard soldiers married in Maine married civilians, Gibson said. The Quirions, who have a six-month-old baby boy, are the exception.

"I don't want to leave him, but I have to do what the Army expects of me," said Mary, who wrestled with the idea of getting a hardship discharge so she

could stay home with her new baby.

Instead, the Quirions decided to leave their child with relatives so they could deploy with their company.

"I know I'll miss him a lot while I'm gone," said Mary, who's trained to operate a 22-ton crane. She'll especially miss the baby's first birthday, and the day when he takes his first steps, she said. "But when we get back, our child will be right there waiting for us."

Always remembering that fact, the Quirions said they would like to get on with the deployment that could last for a year or longer, do their jobs and return home.

"I wanted to do something for my country," said Jesse, a heating and air conditioning technician, of his decision to enlist in the National Guard about three years ago.

"Joining the Guard and going through basic training helped square me away," he said. Serving in the military has helped prepare him to deal with whatever situations may come his way – including war and separation from loved ones far away, he said.

They're stronger together, the couple said. Each knows what the other is experiencing, and that can only strengthen their bond, Mary said. 🇺🇸



Many couples, including this soldier and his fiancée, chose to marry before deploying to Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991.

Sharp Shooters

WISCONSIN'S Fort McCoy is a Total Force Training Center for both reserve-component and active-duty military forces. For nearly two decades the installation has provided support and facilities used to train more than 100,000 military personnel in both the classroom and the field. The state's four-season climate offers significant year-round training opportunities, and the installation

features an air-to-ground impact area and airborne drop zones for both personnel and equipment. Rob Schuette, a photographer at the installation, highlights some of Fort McCoy's activities. 🇺🇸



Members of a Primary Leadership Development Course participate in a field training exercise at one of the many Fort McCoy training areas.



Soldiers from the 6015th Garrison Support Unit construct a wooden storage shed at Fort McCoy.



▲ CPT Karen Caudillo, an intensive care unit nurse with Wisconsin's 452nd Combat Support Hospital, trains on a simulated wounded mannequin at Fort McCoy's Regional Training Site—Medical Mannequin Storage/Laboratory.

◀ Matt Granahan, a Fort McCoy Directorate of Support Services employee, checks a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter mock-up to be used in the Combat Litter Course.

Mail photo submissions for Sharp Shooters to: **Photo Editor, Soldiers**, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581. Digital images should be directed to: alberto.betancourt@belvoir.army.mil All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.



Anna Caudill Peterson

◀ SFC Linda Riviera-Estacio, one of several liaison NCOs in the GSU's mobilization cell, gathers her parachute and prepares to leave Fort Bragg's Sicily Drop Zone.

Story by MAJ Jan Northstar

MORE than 150,000 Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers have been activated in response to the war on terrorism since Sept. 11, 2001, and the 2125th Garrison Support Unit — one of about a dozen GSUs nationwide — has been responsible for transitioning some 15,000 reserve-component soldiers to active duty since that time.

The unit, from Decatur, Ga., deployed on Sept. 28, 2001, to Fort Bragg, N.C., where its 350 soldiers processed many of the first Guard and Reserve units that responded to the terrorist attacks. Soldiers from the 2125th's military police detachment augmented Fort Bragg security personnel and MP units to provide force protection, and other GSU soldiers ensured that mobilized units arriving at Fort Bragg received everything they needed in preparation for deployment.

The GSU's headquarters followed on Oct. 15, to prepare for the expected influx of arriving reserve-component soldiers.

Home to the XVIII Airborne Corps, U.S. Army Special Operations Command and the 82nd Abn. Division, Fort Bragg can send troops to meet any crisis in a matter of hours. The 2125th plays a critical role in this mission by providing everything the incoming reserve-component soldiers need — from training and equipment to medical attention and legal and financial support.

"The key to success has been the 2125th GSU," said Fort Bragg garrison commander COL Tad Davis. "Without its presence at this crucial time, the mobilization of units wouldn't have been accomplished to

MAJ Jan Northstar is the public affairs officer for the 2125th GSU.

“We’re a brigade-level, command-and-control headquarters for mobilizing and demobilizing units, and we coordinate the mobilization process for the installation.”

standard. The 2125th has a unique capability and a wealth of experience in dealing with the reserve component.”

To date, the 2125th has readied some 200 units for deployment, he said.

Lessons Learned

Garrison-support units are the result of lessons learned during Operation Desert Shield, Davis said. During that time, deploying active-component units didn’t have the luxury of leaving behind the personnel who were essential to the continued operation of the home installation.

The GSUs were established to provide such basic infrastructure services as MPs, personnel and administration, finance, logistics, public works, training and operations, staff judge advocate, chaplain and public affairs.

When the 2125th formed at East Point, Ga., in 1994, its only mission was to be prepared to augment Fort Bragg if the XVIII ABC deployed. Today, said 2125th GSU commander COL Jeff Jacobs, the GSU’s mission is broader than augmenting the services of active-duty soldiers.

“We’re a brigade-level, command-and-control headquarters for mobilizing and demobilizing units, and we coordinate the mobilization process for the installation,” Jacobs said.

Taking Care of Soldiers

At Fort Bragg, the 2125th GSU and installation staff agencies operate the Mobilization Unit Inprocessing Center that coordinates with the advance parties of units notified of mobilization at Fort Bragg. Once units arrive, the GSU helps ensure the soldiers experience a seamless transition to active duty.

Soldiers mobilizing at Fort Bragg are guaranteed everything they need to deploy, Jacobs said, particularly fully mission-capable equipment. Every weapon, vehicle, generator, radio or night-vision device is inspected and repaired, if necessary, to ensure it works on the battlefield.

SFC Linda Riviera-Estacio is one of several liaison NCOs in the GSU’s mobilization cell. She and her coworkers guide troops through such various soldier-readiness processing stations as finance, medical and legal.

“I have helped process as many as 250 soldiers at one time through the SRPs,” said Riviera-Estacio, who greets each arriving group.

Basic combat refresher training is a key element of predeployment for many soldiers, said training NCO SSG Anthony Green. Reserve soldiers feel a lot more confident when they’ve had an opportunity to brush up on land navigation and marksmanship, he said.

Green also ensures the soldiers are proficient in the use of their weapons and nuclear, biological and chemical-protective equipment.

SPC Vida Kwarteng, a personnel-services specialist, has been in the Army Reserve for about four years. She was a hotel reservations clerk and college student when she was called up with the GSU.

“I have a much better understanding of my MOS and how to do my job, which is crucial to a soldiers’ career,” said Kwarteng, who monitors evaluations, making sure they’re completed on time and meet regulation criteria for the individual being rated.

Broad Service

The 2125th GSU’s first active-duty assignment was providing support to units mobilizing in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. At the same time, unit members are for the first time serving in key XVIII ABC staff positions. The unit also is proud of being able to send a number of soldiers to Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga. — a feat that is rare in Army Reserve units, Davis said. 🇺🇸

MAJ Jan Northstar



SSG Anthony Green instructs deploying soldiers on how to detect chemical agents in the field.

Through “Murphy’s” Eye

Story by Heike Hasenauer

SFC Mark Baker, an intelligence analyst at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., started drawing his “Private Murphy” cartoons in 1994, when he was stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C.

“At that time, I drew cartoons strictly to appeal to guys in my unit,” Baker said. “Gradually, I began drawing cartoons that I thought all soldiers would be able to relate to.”

Baker, a former cavalry scout, draws on his own Army experiences to create Murphy’s cartoon stories, he said.

The wide variety of assignments Baker has experienced over the years — in various units, including armor, air and ground cavalry, light infantry and special forces — has provided him ample ideas for Murphy’s escapades, he said.

In 2000, the Army Times picked up his cartoon strip, “Private Murphy’s Law,” and it’s been published weekly since then.


“Not all of my cartoons are well received,” he said. “Some folks have told me that they think my cartoons are anti-Army. That’s not the case at all. I love the Army and, after 17 years of being a soldier, I believe I’ve earned the right to poke some fun at my profession.”

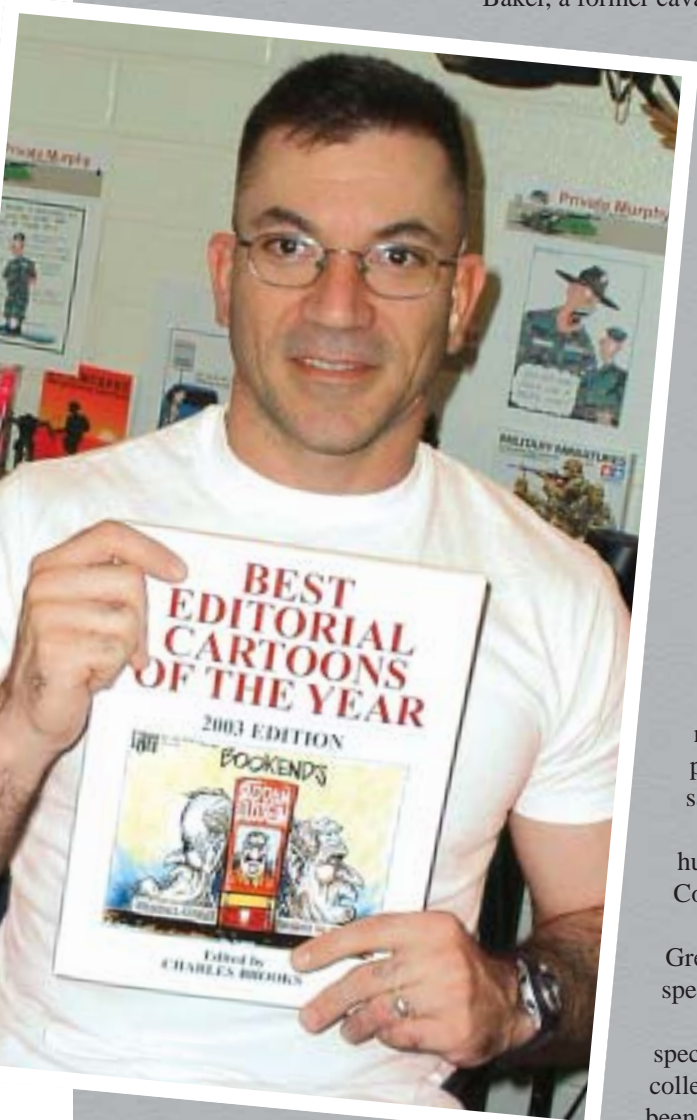
“If I draw Murphy with his brain jumping out of his head because he’s thinking about re-enlisting, that doesn’t mean I’m trying to discourage soldiers from re-enlisting,” Baker said. “Come on, lighten up.”

More fun than offense, Baker’s cartoons have also appeared in *Armor* and *Legion* magazines. And the artist is now working on his third book of cartoons. The two already in print are sold at AAFES military clothing sales stores, Baker said.

Additionally, one of Baker’s cartoons was recently selected from hundreds of other submissions for publication in Pelican Publishing Company’s “Best Editorial Cartoons of the Year — 2003.”

His cartoon characters have also appeared in illustrations for Patriot Greetings, a veteran-owned greeting-card company that produces cards specifically for the armed forces.

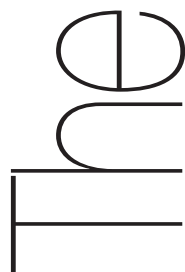
“It’s a good company, with a good cause. Its employees fill a soldier-specific need, and they donate a portion of the company’s proceeds to a college scholarship fund for the children of military personnel who have been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty,” Baker said. 



SFC Mark Baker







Gift Of Groceries

Story by Bonnie Powell



Very Much Appreciated

AS reserve-component soldiers continue to be activated in support of the war on terrorism, their families can be affected financially as well as emotionally. And if the soldier has had to leave a higher-paying civilian job, the economic hardship can be long term.

Americans demonstrated great support for U.S. service members during the Gulf War, and increasingly, U.S. military officials said, Americans are looking for ways to support soldiers who are currently deployed to the Persian Gulf region and around the world.

Now Americans can choose a new option among the many acts of kindness they demonstrated earlier. They can donate groceries.

For more than 135 years, military families have been able to put commissary shopping on the top of their lists of most-valued military benefits. But for the first time, the average American can help military families with the "Gift of Groceries," a gift certificate program that allows anyone

to purchase commissary gift certificates through **www.commissaries.com** or by calling a toll-free number, (877) 770-4438.

The certificates can be donated to military families through charitable organizations or given directly to military friends and family, but only authorized shoppers can spend them at any of the nearly 280 commissaries serving the U.S. armed services worldwide.

"Commissaries can save shoppers an average of 30 percent, so it's a valuable benefit for members of our armed forces, their families and retirees," said the Defense Commissary Agency's director, Air Force Maj. Gen. Michael P. Wiedemer.

"The gift-certificate program started as a customer service, but it seems to be evolving into much more," he said. Since the program began in the fall of 2002, such worldwide charities as the Air Force Aid Society, the USO and Fisher House Foundation have agreed to accept donated certificates for military

families in need.

Military chaplains' funds purchased more than \$500,000 for the Christmas and New Year holidays, but now civilian organizations that want to help are getting involved, too.

"We want to support military families through Operation Home Front," said Linda Jo Reynolds, assistant to Pastor Leo Giovinetti at Mission Valley Christian Fellowship. Operation Home front is an effort to support military families in and near San Diego, Calif. Radio station KOGO and Cinchouse, a local nonprofit organization of military spouses, are spearheading Operation Home front.

"We heard they were accepting grocery certificates," said Reynolds. "So we thought, since it was for the military, why not donate commissary gift certificates?" The fellowship donation was \$25,000.

"You would need about \$35,000 to purchase an equivalent amount of groceries at a regular grocery store," said DeCA Deputy Director Patrick B. Nixon. "That kind of additional purchasing power is what the commissary benefit is all about for military families."

The Fisher House Foundation,

Bonnie Powell works for Defense Commissary Agency Corporate Communications.

es



which was recently added to the list of major charities that accept donated certificates, operates 31 “homes away from home” to accommodate family members tending to hospitalized loved ones at major military medical facilities worldwide. Each Fisher House has a large, modern kitchen and space to store groceries.

“Families often face additional, unexpected expenses when a relative is hospitalized,” said foundation Vice Chairman Ken Fisher. “Being able to provide them with commissary gift certificates will provide some stress relief, enabling them to focus more of their attention on their loved one.”


The gift-certificate program is made possible through a business agreement with CertifiChecks Inc., at no cost to DeCA or the federal government. A standard charge covers the costs of handling,

printing and mailing of up to 20 certificates — as long as all are going to the same address. Additional charges may apply for bulk orders or special delivery. When a purchaser elects to donate, CertifiChecks sends the donated certificate to the designated charity.

“The donation of commissary gift certificates to military families has been tremendous so far,” said Mike Baskerville, vice president of

CertifiChecks Inc. “Giving the gift of groceries has been embraced by the public and business worlds alike as a wonderful way to support American men and women in uniform.”


DeCA operates a worldwide chain of nearly 280 commissaries, providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases, compared to commercial prices — savings worth more than \$2,400 annually for a family of four.

A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America’s military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country, said Wiedemer. 



Americans are looking for ways to support deployed soldiers.

Now Americans can choose a new option among their many acts of kindness... they can now donate groceries.

 To purchase commissary gift certificates for groceries go to www.commissaries.com or call (877) 770-4438 (toll-free in the U.S.).

Europe's Reserve

Story by MAJ John Dahms

FEW people are aware that there are Army Reserve units permanently stationed in Europe. Fewer still know that there is an Army Reserve training brigade there that offers officer and NCO professional-development courses and MOS training to all components of the Army.

The 3747th Multi-Functional Training Brigade offers educational opportunities not found anywhere else in U.S. Army, Europe. Falling under the 7th Army Reserve Command, the

MAJ Jon Dahms works for the 7th Army Reserve Command Public Affairs Office.

Army's only major Reserve command totally stationed on foreign soil, the school is the only fully accredited Army school in Europe.

"We provide the courses that are key stepping stones to promotion and future success for all officers and NCOs," said brigade CSM Michael Harris. "And the best part about it is that all of our courses are fully accredited and recognized by the Total Army School System."

The 3747th's instructors teach the Primary Leadership Development Course; the Basic and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Courses; and the Combined Arms and Services

"We provide the courses that are key stepping stones to promotion and future success for all officers and NCOs."

Staff School and Command and General Staff Officers Course for officers.

The school also provides MOS training for administrative and personnel services specialists, motor transportation coordinators and unit



Training Brigade

supply specialists.

“We train to one Army, one standard,” said COL Christopher L. Winston, the 3747th’s commander. “Prospective students have to meet the same enrollment and graduation requirements as those of the stateside active-component schools.”

In fact, Winston said, the officer courses in Europe are very popular with active component officers.

“Around 70 percent of the students in our officer courses are active-component officers,” said LTC Michael Sinnott, the 3747th’s General Studies Battalion commander.

“Courses here are taught on com-



National Guard and Army Reserve PLDC students muster after a road march. The 3747th also teaches the Basic and Advanced NCO Courses, among others.



PLDC students SGT Kevin Benz (left) and SPC Steven Wolfe provide security as other students confer during a field exercise.



Duffle bags await their National Guard and Army Reserve owners on the final day of PLDC. Following graduation from the various 3747th-run classes, students return to their active-duty, reserve-component and civilian jobs throughout Europe.

pressed schedules, saving these officers the time they'd spend away from their units on long temporary assignments to stateside schools."

About 150 Reservists serve with the 3747th MFTB. Of that, one-third work at the academy as instructors, said CSM Patrick Hooper, the 3747th's NCO Academy commandant.

"Our emphasis is on education and professional development," Hooper said.

Each year the academy graduates classes of the Advanced and Basic NCO Courses and the Primary Leadership Development Course. Reserve instructors use their annual training time to lead the two-week courses.

PLDC and BNCOC instructors must be staff sergeants, while ANCOC instructors must be sergeants first class. Instructor candidates must have served in leadership positions for at least three years and be able to pass the Army Physical Fitness Test.

It takes about two years for a Reserve NCO to become an academy instructor, Hooper said.

The soldiers first attend a two-week course on small-group-instruction techniques, followed by one class cycle serving as assistant instructors.


To enroll in most courses, soldiers are required to complete a commander's checklist, meet the Army's height and weight requirements, and pass the APFT upon arrival at the school.

Early last year instructors from the 3747th's NCO Academy conducted a video-teletraining distance learning

pilot program for 163 NCOs in Germany and Italy. The program analyzed the effectiveness of training soldiers in a classroom and projecting that same training to distant locations.

"We conducted three basic and three advanced NCO courses under the pilot program," said Lee Brummell, the 7th ARCOM's staff operations and training officer. "The test showed that these courses can be taught to soldiers at remote locations."

In 1997 the academy opened its doors in Grafenwöhr, which is also home to the 7th Army Training Command. The 7th ATC runs an NCO academy for active-duty soldiers at the base, located about 55 miles east of Nürnberg and just 20 miles from the Czech border. Units in Europe also use the base for gunnery training.

In 1999 the 3747th received accreditations from the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy Proponent Schools and the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. The school will undergo reaccreditation this year. 



SSG Janice Zimmerman, an assistant instructor with the 3747th, helps SGT Ashwani Singh of the Army Reserve's 464th Replacement Company during a recent training course at the brigade's headquarters in Grafenwöhr.

Around the Services

Compiled by SSG Alberto Betancourt
from service reports



Air Force

Airmen from the 409th Air Expeditionary Group, deployed to Camp Sarafovo, Bulgaria, help load humanitarian cargo onto a C-17 Globemaster III. The C-17 landed at Burgas Airport en route to deliver humanitarian aid to Iraq.



Master Sgt. Dave Ahlschwede, USAF

PA1 Tom Sperduto, USCG



Coast Guard

Coast Guard boarding officer CWO Pete E. Bower looks over an Iranian fishing boat off the coast of Iraq in the North Arabian Gulf. Coast Guard boarding teams are inspecting and searching vessels in the Gulf for weapons, terrorists and Iraqi military personnel.



Navy

A CH-46 Sea Knight prepares to land aboard USS *Abraham Lincoln* prior to a vertical replenishment with USS *Camden*. USS *Abraham Lincoln*, homeported at Everett, Wash., and its embarked Carrier Air Wing 14 from NAS Lemoore, Calif., returned to the United States after supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Southern Watch and Operation Enduring Freedom.



PH1 Jason Frost, USN

Sgt. Kevin R. Reed, USMC



Marines

Marines from the 1st Marine Division's Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, patrol the streets of Baghdad to ensure the efficient delivery of humanitarian aid.



A Miracle In Camouflage

FOR 10 years Anita Marroquin prayed for a miracle from God, but she never imagined a U.S. soldier in BDUs would appear as the responding angel.

Marroquin, who's from the city of Berlin, in El Salvador, got a visit from CPT Conrad Hawkins, an Army Reserve physical therapist, in February 2002, when he was participating in exercise New Horizons 2002 with the 330th Combat Support Hospital from Millington, Tenn.

New Horizons is a humanitarian-aid and civic-action exercise conducted annually in Central and South America. Hawkins and his unit were providing local medical care near Berlin when he met Marroquin.

"We were distributing medications and performing basic physical exams to identify any medical problems the villagers might have had, so they could seek follow-up," Hawkins said.

Marroquin visited the unit as it was providing this assistance. She presented a letter to COL Howard Bromley, the unit commander, seeking his help in obtaining a prosthetic arm.

"He came to me, the unit's physical therapist, and asked if I thought this request was possible," Hawkins said. "I told him I believed I could make it happen, because I had contacts in the States who deal primarily with prostheses."

"The next day we contacted Miss Marroquin, and I took measurements of her left arm. It was a bit ironic, because initially I wasn't supposed to be a part of the mission; no one had anticipated a need for physical therapists, but I was adamant about coming, and I'm glad I did."

Hawkins said that during the measur-

ing process he realized he didn't have all the materials he needed to do the job correctly. "We needed to make a plaster mold of her right shoulder. Her arm, up to her shoulder, had been amputated after an auto accident that occurred during the El Salvador civil war," he said.

Hawkins said the prosthetic arm she received after the accident was made of wood and metal and weighed almost 80 pounds.

"For a woman who weighs only 140 pounds, that was way too heavy," he said.

Hawkins returned to the States with the measurements and contacted several companies he thought might be able to help him. One contact was Ted Snell, manager of CFI Inc., a company that manufactures prostheses.

Snell initially said he would produce the arm free of charge but needed the plaster mold Hawkins had been unable to make.

Fortunately, on the last rotation of the exercise, another soldier took the materials needed to make the cast and met with Marroquin to complete the job.

Hawkins picked up the casting when it was flown back to the States and gave it, along with the measurements he had taken, to CFI.

The story could have ended there, because the manufacturer no longer agreed to cover the cost of the prosthesis. But Hawkins didn't give up.

He bargained with the company, which agreed not to charge for labor, if he could pay for parts.

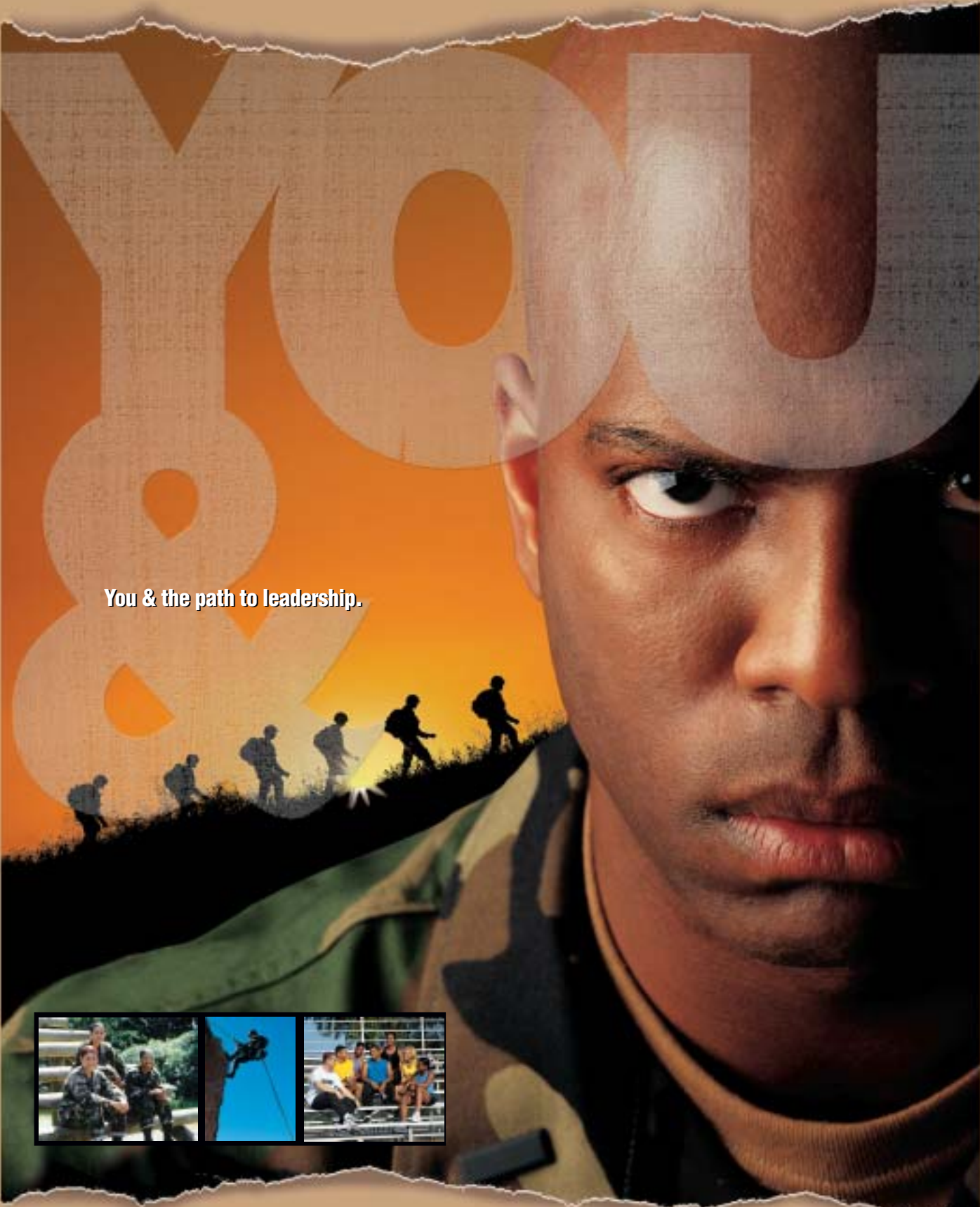
Hawkins solicited funds from his unit, and the response was overwhelming. The soldiers raised almost \$600.

"Finally in November 2002, I picked up the prosthetic arm and Army Reserve officials sent me back to El Salvador to fit Anita with the arm and to provide any needed physical therapy," Hawkins said.

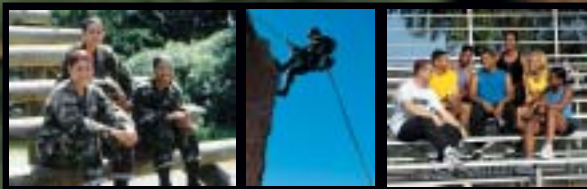
Marroquin said, after 10 years God had finally answered her prayers to receive an American prosthetic arm that was lightweight and that she could wear. As Hawkins began to fit the life-like arm to Marroquin, she couldn't stop smiling, and tears of joy streamed down her face.

"This arm will really help me, especially with my job. I work at a post office, and I have to write a lot, so to be able to have something to keep the papers from moving and to keep myself propped up will be a big help. This is truly something that is going to make my life better," Marroquin said. 🇺🇸





You & the path to leadership.



You have the desire. You have the drive. You have what the Army National Guard wants—experience. The Army Guard will give you the opportunity to test the skills you've gained through your military service, and take your team to the top. On your way to success, you'll

earn a regular paycheck, build on your retirement, and receive many more valuable benefits.

Most Guard members serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year. So come lead a new team. Join the Army National Guard.

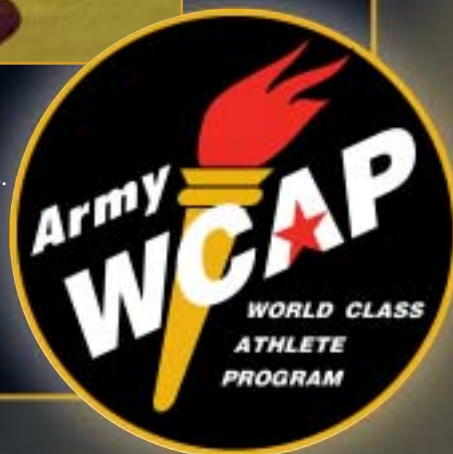
I-800-GO-GUARD • www.I-800-GO-GUARD.com



SSG MICHAEL PRIEDITIS



SSG Michael Prieditis enlisted in the Army in 1996, in the Signal Corps. Prieditis has been excelling in judo since 1980, when he won first place at the High School Nationals. More recently, he earned a bronze medal at the 2002 U.S. National Judo Championship, and gold medals at the 2002 Swamp Classic Judo Tournament and the Southwest Regional Judo Championship. In 2002, he also earned a silver medal at the Midwest Judo Championship.



WCAP is one of 50 morale, welfare and recreation programs the Army provides soldiers and families worldwide through the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center.

JUDO